

Message Text

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51 L

ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-10 ISO-00 AID-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00

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FM USMISSION GENEVA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 657

INFO AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRD, EEWT

SUBJECT: ROLE OF STATE TRADING COUNTRIES IN MTN

REF: GENEVA 432

1. SUMMARY: HUNGARIAN MTN NEGOTIATOR NYERGES MET WITH AMB. MALMGREN AND DEPUTY ASST. SECY. GLITMAN FEB 10 ON EVE OF TNC MEETING. HE RAISED THREE TOPICS: FINNISH FREE TRADE AGREEMENT, PROSPECTS FOR COOPERATION WITH US IN MTN AND FEARS OF GANGING UP BY US AND EC AGAINST STATE-TRADING COUNTRIES. HE WAS CLEARLY UNDER INSTRUCTIONS NOT TO TAKE UP US-HUNGARIAN TRADE AGREEMENT. END SUMMARY.

2. ON HUNGARIAN-FINNISH AGREEMENT, NYERGES WAS TOLD THAT WE DID NOT THINK IT QUALIFIED AS A FREE TRADE ARRANGEMENT BUT CONSIDERED FINLAND A UNIQUE CASE AND DID NOT INTEND TO CHALLENGE IT. WE WOULD, HOWEVER, REACT STRONGLY AGAINST SIMILAR MOVES WITH OTHER COUNTRIES, INCLUDING SWEDEN AND AUSTRIA WHICH NYERGES SPECIFICALLY MENTIONED. NYERGES SAID IF OTHER COUNTRIES PROPOSED FTA'S TO

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HUNGARY, IT WOULD NOT SAY NO.

3. NYERGES SAID HUNGARY'S MAIN OBJECTIVE IN MTN WAS ACCESS TO EC FOR MEAT AND CATTLE IN FORM OF ORDERLY MARKETING. HE PROPOSED COOPERATION, ASSUMING US HAD SIMILAR INTERESTS IN AGRICULTURE. MALMGREN ASSURED HIM WE DID BUT PREFERRED TO DEFINE GOAL AS "PREDICTABLE" MARKETING CONDITIONS WHICH NYERGES REPEATED SEVERAL TIMES AND SEEMED TO ACCEPT. MALMGREN ANTICIPATED US AND HUNGARY WOULD FIND THEMSELVES ON PARALLEL COURSE AND INVITED CONTACT WITH AGRICULTURE EXPERT ON US DELEGATION WHEN ISSUES BECAME CONCRETE.

4. NYERGES EXPRESSED FEAR THAT US AND COMMUNITY WOULD COLLABORATE AGAINST STATE-TRADING COUNTRIES IN MTN. US SIDE DENIED THIS BUT NOTED THAT CONGRESS HAD DELIBERATELY PLACED STATE-TRADING COUNTRIES IN A SPECIAL CATEGORY IN TRADE ACT. WE WOULD NOT APPROACH QUESTION DOGMATICALLY BUT WOULD EXAMINE TRADING SYSTEMS OF STATE-TRADING COUNTRIES ON CASE-BY-CASE BASIS TO ENSURE RECIPROCITY REQUIRED BY ACT.

5. NYERGES CONFIRMED GOH POSITION REPORTED BUDAPEST 231 WHEN HE SAID HUNGARY NOT PREPARED NEGOTIATE US-HUNGARIAN BILATERAL ON BASIS OF TRADE ACT. THEN OFFERED TO LISTEN IF US HAD ANYTHING TO SAY BUT US SIDE DID NOT.
DALE

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